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means "l'ensemble des écuyers, pages, etc., qui forment la maison d'un roi ou d'un seigneur."

For an instance of *loange* in the sense of 'glory,' 'renown,' see Crestien's *Ivain*, 2189. Malherbe (I, 150) speaks of "Mars, qui met sa louange à désarter (= dépeupler) la terre."

34. *melodie*. In his *Art de dictier* (VII, 269) Deschamps explains "nous avons deux musiques, dont l'une est artificielle et l'autre est naturelle." By the first he means music, and by the second poetry; Chaucer's *douce melodie*, therefore, is, in this technical sense, his sweet verse.

35. *rescripre*. Hoepffner, I believe, is right (p. 175) in seeing more in this verb than merely "to make a written reply"; Deschamps, whose vanity is uneasy, asks from Chaucer a *rescript*, an official written decision of emperor or pope, as to the real merits of the *euvres d'escolier* sent him by the medium of Clifford. Cf. *PMLA*, XIX, 641, n., and Wells, *Manual*, p. 669, for conjectures as to the actual poem sent.

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"THE DEVIL AND DOCTOR FOSTER"

A number of years ago Professor Thomas Stockham Baker called attention¹ to the expression "the devil and Doctor Foster" as used in Maryland and West Virginia. He suggested its connection with the Faust legend, and inquired for further information in regard to it. As his note appears to have elicited no response, it may be of interest to present the following facts.

The expression is at least as old as the year 1726, for Defoe, in his *Political History of the Devil*, published in that year in London, speaks² of "the famous Dr. *Faustus* or *Foster*, of whom we have believed such strange Things, as that it is become a Proverb, *as great as the Devil and Dr. Foster*." The author also remarks:³ "No doubt the *Devil* and Dr. *Faustus* were very intimate: I should

¹ *Mod. Lang. Notes*, XI, 63.

² P. 377 (p. 347 of the Oxford reprint of 1840).

³ P. 286 (p. 261, ed. Oxford).

rob you of a very significant * [** As great as the Devil and Doctor Faustus. Vulg. Dr. Foster.*] Proverb if I should as much as doubt it."

The original form of the expression, "the Devil and Dr. Faustus," occurs as the title of a play referred to in a four-page pamphlet called "A Walk to Smithfield, or a true description of the humours of Bartholomew Fair" (London, 1701).⁴ As an exclamation the phrase recurs in Fielding's *Tom Jones* (1749).⁵

Professor Henry Wood reminds me that the linking of Faust and his mentor in one phrase is as old as Shakespeare's day, for Bardolph⁶ speaks of the "cozeners" who "set spurs and away, like three German devils, three Doctor Faustuses." Professor Alfred E. Richards, of New Hampshire State College, has pointed out⁷ a passage in Shadwell's comedy *The Sullen Lovers* (1688), in which Sir Positive-At-All announces that he can "raise a devil with Doctor Faustus himself, if he were alive," and another in *Punch's Petition to the Ladies*, in which it is said of one Vander Hop "nor was he civil to Doctor Faustus nor the devil."

"The Devil and Doctor Faustus" appears in America as the title of a curious little chap-book of twelve pages, duodecimo, which Professor G. L. Kittredge, of Harvard University, very courteously lent me from his private library. This chap-book, which is divided into fourteen chapters, is entitled: "The Devil and Doctor Faustus. Containing the history of the wicked life and horrid death of Doctor John Faustus, and shewing how he sold himself to the Devil, to have power for twenty-four years to do what he pleased. Also the strange things done by him and Mephistopheles. With an Account

⁴ For this reference, as well as for those to the original edition of Defoe, I am indebted to Tille's very learned work, *Die Faustsplitter in der Literatur des sechzehnten bis achtzehnten Jahrhunderts* (Berlin, 1900-04), pp. 515, 1130, and 1144. Tille indicates that he did not have access to "A Walk to Smithfield," but fails to give the source of his reference to it. His information comes from Morley's *Memoirs of Bartholomew Fair* (London 1859), p. 353, to which Professor J. W. Bright kindly referred me.

⁵ Vol. iv (ed. London, 1902), p. 236 (Book XVIII, chap. viii): "What the devil and Doctor Faustus! shan't I do what I will with my own daughter, especially when I desire nothing but her own good?"

⁶ *Merry Wives of Windsor* (Cambridge ed.), IV, v, l. 64. Cf. Tille, *op. cit.*, p. 147.

⁷ *Mod. Lang. Notes*, xxii, p. 41.

how the Devil came to him at the end of twenty-four years and tore him to pieces. Montpelier: Printed by Carlos C. Darling, 1807." This pamphlet, according to Professor F. H. Wilkens,⁸ is "presumably a reprint or adaptation of one of the English chap-books on the subject." Professor Richards kindly informs me that not one of a score of other Faust texts of the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries which he has studied bears the title "The Devil and Doctor Faustus." He is inclined to suspect that the Montpelier chap-book is a condensation of the text printed at Worcester, Mass., in 1795.

The popularity of the Faust story in America antedates by more than a century the publication of these chap-books. I am again indebted to Professor Kittredge for the information that between 1682 and 1685 John Usher, a Boston bookseller, imported from London no less than sixty-six copies of a "History of Dr. Faustus."⁹ This book Mr. Ford identifies with "The History of the Damnable Life and deserved Death of Doctor John Faustus; now newly printed, issued in 1677 for T. Sawbridge." Professor Richards has seen an edition dated 1682 (cf. *PMLA*, xxi, 810). It would seem more likely that the book imported into Boston in 1682-85 bore the date of 1682 rather than that of 1677.

One is inclined to wonder whether another American expression is akin to that discussed by Professor Baker. In Barrère and Leland's *Dictionary of Slang, Jargon and Cant* (London, 1897) appears the following article: "*Devil and Tom Walker, the* (American), an old saying once common in New England to the effect that it 'beats *the Devil and Tom Walker*,' or 'he fared as Tom Walker did with the Devil.' In the *Marvellous Repository*, a curious collection of tales, many of them old Boston legends, there is one of *Tom Walker*, who sold himself to *the Devil*. The book was published about 1832." No information seems to be accessible as to the *Marvellous Repository*. Irving's *Tales of a Traveller* (1824) contains an amusing sketch entitled "The Devil and Tom Walker."¹⁰ Professor Carl von Doren, who has made a study of

⁸ *Americana Germanica*, III, 186. I owe this reference to Professor Richards.

⁹ Cf. Worthington C. Ford, *The Boston Book-Market, 1679-1700*. (Boston, Club of Odd Volumes, 1917), pp. 104, 119, 129, 148.

¹⁰ This sketch was reprinted anonymously in a little chap-book (7 x 11

Irving's tales, informs me that he has "never come across any earlier version of the Devil and Tom Walker story than that in the 1824 *Tales of a Traveller*.¹¹ The phrase 'to beat the devil and Tom Walker' was familiar to me in childhood (in Illinois), and my wife knew it, she says, in Florida. Each of us lived in a community pretty well stocked with New Englanders, but of course I cannot be sure that Tom Walker was folklore." Dean A. L. Bouton, of New York University, tells me that he has heard "the devil and Tom Walker" in Central New York. It would be interesting to know more about Tom Walker and his associate than Irving's conscientious history and the preceding statements indicate. It is curious in this connection to note that Professor Richards has found¹² "traces of the Faust story" in the tale of the "Spectre Bridegroom," in Irving's *Sketch-Book*.¹³

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cm.) published at Woodstock, Vt., in 1830. A story by an unknown author, entitled "Deacon Grubb and the Old Nick," follows it in the same pamphlet. A copy of this publication is found in the Library of Congress, as Miss Jennie A. Craig, of the staff of the University of Illinois library, pointed out to me.

¹¹ He has called my attention to an interesting change in the speech of the "iron-faced Cape Cod whaler" with which the tale is introduced. "In the first edition, Part 4, p. 21, the whaler says: 'Ah, well, there is an odd story I have heard about one Tom Walker, who they say dug up some of Kidd's buried money.' But in the later version (*e. g.*, ed. Philadelphia, 1840), the whaler says the story 'was written by a neighbor of mine and . . . I learnt [it] by heart.'"

¹² *Mod. Lang. Notes*, xxiii, 119.

¹³ A chat at the recent Modern Language Association meeting led to the suggestion that "Dr. Foster" of Defoe and Professor Baker may be a relative of the hero of the nursery rhyme:

Dr. Foster went to Gloucester
In a shower of rain.
He slipped in a puddle up to his middle,
And never went there again.

I leave the further study of this fascinating problem to future investigators.